

SECRET

25X1

30 APR 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH : Deputy Director of Intelligence
FROM : Director, Office of East Asian Analysis
SUBJECT : Background Information on Kampuchea

Attached are copies of recent current intelligence items covering Vietnam's new Kampuchean strategy, progress toward forming a coalition of Kampuchean resistance groups and developments concerning the flow of refugees along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Now that the rainy season is beginning, Vietnam is wrapping up its most aggressive campaign to date against the Kampuchean resistance groups. Over the past four months, Vietnamese forces have:

- Dislodged Democratic Kampuchea (DK) forces from strategic positions, inflicted unusually high casualties on several DK divisions, and generally kept the resistance off balance.
- Overrun the most effective guerrilla base of non-Communist Kampuchean Peoples National Liberation Front (KPNLF).

The overall impact of the Vietnamese actions is not yet clear. Information on the extent of losses suffered by resistance forces is sketchy, and some of the forces apparently are already beginning to regroup. Much will depend on the success of recruitment efforts by the resistance groups during 1982; supply losses will probably be made up by China (for the DK) and Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand (for the KPNLF.)

25X1

- The KPNLF does not at this point have a recruitment base large enough to produce an additional 10-15,000 troops.
- Its military leadership is weak and has little guerrilla experience.
- Any significant buildup will invite attacks from DK

25X1

SECRET

SECRET [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

forces.

[REDACTED]

-- Son Sann has again proposed a loose coalition, with himself as Prime Minister and Sihanouk as chief of state. The DK is unlikely to respond favorably but may agree to renew negotiations.

-- ASEAN states are pushing for a meeting of the three resistance groups in Kuala Lumpur next month.

The outlook for the rainy season (May-November) is for continued, but low-level, fighting along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The Vietnamese will try to hold some forward positions while the resistance forces attempt to regroup, establish new bases, and harass Vietnamese supply lines. Prospects for a coalition agreement between the resistance groups appear to be improving, but such an agreement is unlikely to have any impact on the battlefield.

-- Food shortages and continued fighting along the border will push even more refugees into Thailand. There are now some 100,000 refugees in UN camps in Thailand and some 200,000 in Kampuchea along the border.

[REDACTED] 25X1

Richard J. Kerr

25X1